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RAILROADS TO PAY FOR INJURIES TO WORKMEN. Commission Will Probably Recommend Law to That Effect.

Washington, Oct. 22.—The employees liability and workmen's compensation commission practically decided today to recommend the enactment of a law providing for the insurance of

employees of interstate railroads against injury by accident by requiring the roads to make payments for any injury inflicted. No binding vote was taken, but it was admitted that the commissioners were unanimously favorable to the direct payment plan and to confining the operation of the proposed law to employees on roads engaged in interstate commerce only.

Closed Season on Deer.

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 23.—The impression has been held here that there was an open season on deer from June 1 until the laws of the last general assembly became effective, unless otherwise provided, but it seems to have

been based on a misapprehension. The law on deer making a close season expired June 1 last, but the legislature passed a new close season law which went into effect on June 1, 1911, according to the bill reported from the fish and game committee on March 7, and later passed by both branches.

Steamship Arrivals.

At Naples: Oct. 21, Taormina, from New York.
At Glasgow: Oct. 22, Columbia, from New York.
At Plymouth: Oct. 23, Kronprinzessin Cecilie, from New York.
At Bremen: Oct. 23, Barbarossa, from New York.

IN AND ABOUT WESTERLY

Trouble Over Pawcatuck House-Moving Results in Louis Dotolo and Dr. W. D. Critcherson Being Bound Over Charged With Assault—Ministers Invite Laymen to Aid in No-License Campaign—Suspected Murderer of Joseph Brigham Held Without Bail.

Two cases from the village of Pawcatuck, in which the accused were charged with the serious crime of assault and intent to murder, were heard by Judge W. A. Reed in the town court at Stonington, Monday. They were the state against Louis Dotolo and against William D. Critcherson, both cases being the outcome of a disagreement in regard to the removal of a building along the highway dividing the property of Dr. Critcherson, during which the limbs of trees belonging to Critcherson were cut off in spite of his protest. The accused were arraigned a week ago and both pleaded not guilty.

The first case heard was the state against Dotolo. Prosecuting Attorney Benjamin H. Hewitt representing the state and Town Solicitor Harry B. Agard the defendant, in which Dotolo is charged with the murderous assault upon Dr. Critcherson. Dr. William D. Critcherson, first witness, testified he resided in lower Pawcatuck and owned forty-six acres of land there. The continuation of Pawcatuck road goes by his property and trees are growing on his property along the road. He introduced a photograph of his property on both sides of the highway. He pointed out two trees that are connected with the case. On October 2, a house that was being moved by Louis Dotolo was wedged between these trees. On the morning of the 5th Selectman Stahle and Town Attorney McKenna were there and agreement had been made the day before that one of the trees was not to be cut, but on that morning the foreman of the job was cutting the tree. Witness previously warned Dotolo that the tree must not be cut. The foreman was in the tree with an axe, the axe hanging from a limb of the tree. He reached for a piece of cordwood, that was submitted in evidence. The witness reached the axe, which was lying on the ground, and then started for Dotolo. He was then overpowered by Stahle and a gang of the workmen. Agreement had been reached the day before that one of the limbs on another tree might be cut and the fence removed, but that no other tree was to be mutilated.

In response to queries from Attorney Agard, Dr. Critcherson said that when he came out of the house that morning Selectmen Stahle, Town Attorney McKenna and Contractor Dotolo were there. Paid no attention to Dotolo until after he had struck him with the big club. Had not spoken to Dotolo that morning up to time of assault. He was struck between the shoulder-blades by the club. Then Dotolo ran. Witness did not know what Selectman Stahle was doing at this time, but earlier he had advised Dotolo's man to proceed with the work of moving the house. Dotolo stood by and witness reached for man in tree. Dotolo struck him once with the big club. He had no chance to use the axe as the Italian workmen swarmed on him. As soon as he got free he ran into the barn, got his gun, and then came out, but did not discharge the weapon. He was indignant because the tree was being cut after it had been agreed there would be no mutilation of that particular tree. When Dotolo struck him the blow was accompanied with an oath by Dotolo.

Deputy Sheriff William H. Casey testified that he saw bruise on the doctor's back, when in the office of Prosecuting Attorney Hewitt. The big stick presented in court witness received from Dr. Critcherson. He was not at the Critcherson place at the time of the assault, but was called there soon after by telephone by Dr. Critcherson.

Harold Davis Critcherson, twelve years old, son of the doctor, testified he was at the window of his home when fracas occurred. He saw his father reaching for the axe in the tree and for the man. He saw Dotolo strike father over the back with the club. Had talked the matter over with his father. Told his mother at the time that Dotolo had struck father. Did not tell his father that he had seen Dotolo strike him until a few days ago. Saw the man chopping the tree with the axe when his father took the axe from the man. His father then put the axe on the ground and Dotolo then used the club. Witness said that his father had never told him that Dotolo struck him with the axe.

Samuel Critcherson, another young son of the doctor, age 10, testified that he knew Dotolo, and saw him strike his father with the club. He saw the trouble from the window of the house and corroborated the testimony of his brother. The first witness called for the defense was Selectman Henry A. Stahle. He testified that at the time he was deputy tree warden as well as selectman. The highway was blocked and there had been trouble the day before, so he went down to the scene to see if something could be done to clear the highway. He went there with Town Attorney McKenna about seven o'clock in the morning. The foreman was in the tree, removing the limb of the tree, when Critcherson came out. Just then the axe was hanging in the tree and the foreman was using a saw. The doctor tried to pull the man out of the tree. He then saw Mr. Critcherson with the axe and chased the men away, but seemed to be after Dotolo. Witness took hold of Critcherson and assisted in disarming him. He did not see Dotolo have a club or any weapon, but did see some other man have a club in hand. By Attorney Hewitt, Mr. Stahle said he was there in dual capacity of selectman and tree warden and told Dotolo he must get the house out of the highway and advised Dotolo to remove one of the limbs of the tree. He said that Critcherson protested. Dotolo had no club in his hand. He was in position to see everything that occurred.

George R. McKenna, attorney for the town of Stonington, testified that he was near the Critcherson residence in lower Pawcatuck with Selectman Stahle at seven o'clock in the morning. The trouble was about 8 o'clock. There was a branch that had been cut and a stub six or seven inches long removed and the workmen was ordered to cut the stub. Mr. Critcherson suddenly appeared and declared he would protect his property. Critcherson seized the axe and swung it to the right and left. Dotolo was pushed over, and the row was ended in a minute. Someone did strike Critcherson with a big club, but he was positive that Dotolo did not strike Critcherson with a club, but it was plain that Critcherson was after Dotolo. It was a busy minute, and impossible to see all that was going on. He saw someone strike Critcherson with a club, but could not identify the man who wielded the club. Critcherson was struck with the club while in pursuit of Dotolo with the axe. Stahle pushed Dotolo down and he believed Critcherson went down about the same time. Everybody was excited and something may have escaped notice.

George Cappuccio, foreman for Dotolo, testified that there was a stick of a tree about seven inches long that prevented the progress of moving the house and he was cutting the stub with a saw and had laid the axe aside when Critcherson commenced pulling him out of tree. Dotolo had no club, but Critcherson had the axe. One of the workmen was cut with the axe. By Mr. Hewitt, witness said he was as cool as ice while the row was going on and while Critcherson was swinging the axe, but when Critcherson came out of the house with a gun witness was excited. He could see everything there, but saw no such club as has been introduced in the case. He saw no one with a club; he did not see Stahle take hold of Critcherson. Witness said that Critcherson had previously warned him not to cut the tree.

Louis Dotolo, the accused, testified that he had the contract to remove the house from near the schoolhouse in lower Pawcatuck, and Mr. Crowther,

the owner, had permit to make the removal. Mr. Critcherson gave permission to take down fence to move house, but when the house reached the trees, Mr. Critcherson warned that the trees must not be cut. When Stahle gave permission to cut branch of tree, Critcherson interfered, and got the axe, and the witness ran away; all hands ran off. He said he never saw the club until it was handed Sheriff Casey by Critcherson, and when the house that was being moved was located.

By Mr. Hewitt, Dr. Critcherson was pursuing witness with the axe, but could not tell why he was selected, for he had not said or done anything to Critcherson that morning. Witness said he had not taken his hands out of his pockets from the time the trouble commenced until he had stopped running, and when he fell down.

Attorney Agard offered as evidence a warrant for the arrest of William D. Critcherson, charged with assault and intent to murder John Ozzi.

After able argument, Judge Reed found that there was probable cause for holding Dotolo and a bond of \$500 was furnished for appearance at the next session of the superior court for New London county.

Hearing was then commenced in the case of Dr. William D. Critcherson, with Prosecutor Hewitt representing the state, and Judge Herbert W. Rathbun the defendant. Dr. M. H. Scanlon of Westerly was the first witness in the case, in which Dr. Critcherson is charged with murderous assault on John Ozzi. The doctor testified that he was called to attend Ozzi on the morning of October 5. He found a cut on the front of Ozzi's head on the left side, which was about an inch and a half in length, and reached the

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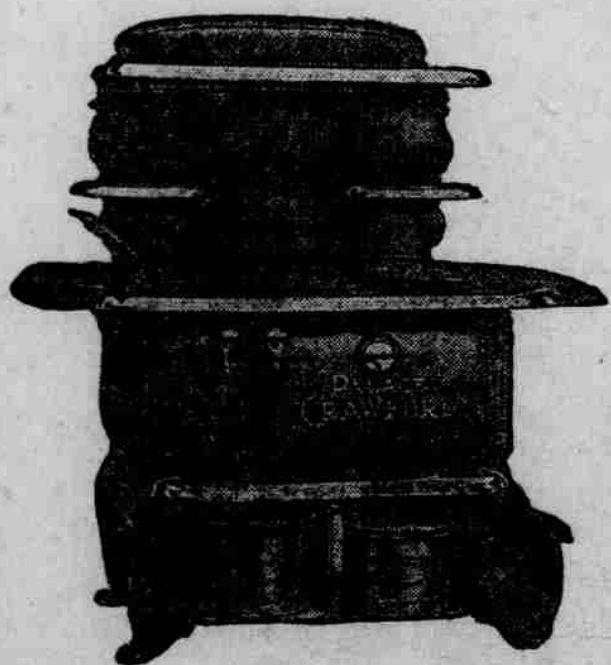
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